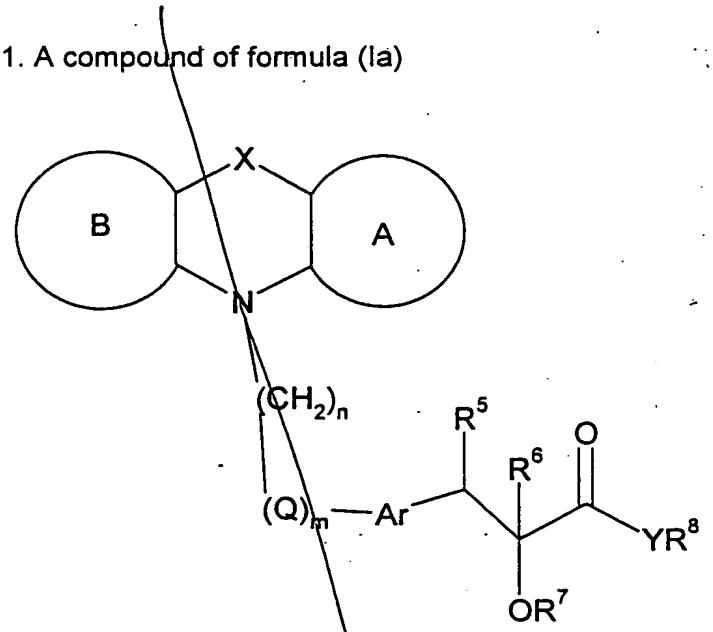
Claims:

Sub A2

1. A compound of formula (Ia)



(Ia)

wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, formyl, or C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl, C_{1-12}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-12}alkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-12}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkylthio, thioC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, aralkoxycarbonylamino, $-COR^{11}$, or $-SO_2R^{12}$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, halogen, perhalomethyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy or amino optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, formyl, or C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl, C_{1-12}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-12}alkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-12}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl,

aralkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkylthio, thioC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, aralkoxycarbonylamino, $-COR^{11}$, or $-SO_2R^{12}$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, halogen, perhalomethyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy or amino optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

X is a valence bond, $-(CHR^9)-$, $-(CHR^9)-CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-O-$, $-O-(CHR^9)-$, $-S-(CHR^9)-$, $-(NR^9)-CH_2-$, $-(CHR^9)-CH=CH-$, $-(CHR^9)-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-(C=O)-$, $-O-CH_2-O-$, $-(NR^9)-$, $-(NR^9)-S(O_2)-$, $-CH=(CR^9)-$, $-(CO)-(CHR^9)-$, $-CH_2-(SO)-$, $-S-$, $-(SO)-$, $-(SO_2)-$, $-CH_2-(SO_2)-$, $-CH_2-O-CH_2-$, wherein R^9 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, formyl, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-12}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-12}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkylthio, thioC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, aralkoxycarbonylamino, $-COR^{11}$, or $-SO_2R^{12}$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, halogen, C_{1-6}alkoxy, amino optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl;

Q is -O-, -S-, $>SO_2$, $>NR^{13}$, wherein R^{13} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl,

Ar represents arylene, heteroarylene, or a divalent heterocyclic group optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl or aryl;

R^5 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, C_{1-12}alkoxy, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl or aralkyl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano; or R^5 forms a bond together with R^6,

R^6 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, C_{1-12}alkoxy, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl, acyl or aralkyl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano; or R^6 forms a bond together with R^5,

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxyC_{1-12}alkyl, C_{1-12}alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, C_{1-12}alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, acyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl groups; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-12}alkyl, C_{4-12}-alkenynyl, C_{2-12}-alkenyl, C_{2-12}-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl groups; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

Y represents oxygen, sulphur or NR^{10}, where R^{10} represents hydrogen, C_{1-12}alkyl, aryl, hydroxyC_{1-12}alkyl or aralkyl groups or when Y is NR^{10}, R^8 and R^{10} may form a 5 or 6 membered nitrogen containing ring, optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl;

n is an integer ranging from 1 to 4 and m is an integer ranging from 0 to 1,

provided that A or B does not represent phenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, cyano, or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{4-7}-alkenynyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-7}alkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-7}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylthio, thioC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, aralkoxycarbonylamino, $-COR^{11}$, or $-SO_2R^{12}$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, perhalomethyl or amino optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or cyano.

3. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, cyano, or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{4-7}-alkenynyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-7}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylthio, thioC_{1-7}alkyl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen or hydroxy;

4. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally

substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, arylamino, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl.

5. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy or aryl.

6. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring A fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen or halogen.

7. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, cyano, or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{4-7}-alkenynyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-7}alkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-7}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylthio, thioC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, aralkoxycarbonylamino, $-COR^{11}$, or $-SO_2R^{12}$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, perhalomethyl or amino optionally substituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or cyano.

8. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, cyano, or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{4-7}-alkenynyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-7}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylthio, thioC_{1-7}alkyl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen or hydroxy.

9. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, arylamino, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl.

10. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy or C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy or aryl.

11. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein ring B fused to the ring containing X and N represents a 5-6 membered cyclic ring, optionally substituted with one or more hydrogen or halogen.

12. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein X is a valence bond, -(CHR^9)-, -(CHR^9)-CH_2-, -CH=CH-, -O-, -O-(CHR^9)-, -S-(CHR^9)-, -(NR^9)-CH_2-, -(CHR^9)-CH=CH-, -(CHR^9)-CH_2-CH_2-, -(C=O)-, -O-CH_2-O-, -(NR^9)-, -(NR^9)-S(O_2)-, -CH=(CR^9)-, -(CO)-(CHR^9)-, -CH_2-(SO)-, -S-, -(SO)-, -(SO_2)-, -CH_2-(SO_2)-, -CH_2-O-CH_2-, wherein R^9 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, aralkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaralkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, acylamino, C_{1-7}alkyl-amino, arylamino, aralkylamino, aminoC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aryloxyC_{1-7}alkyl, aralkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylthio, thioC_{1-7}alkyl.

13. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein X is a valence bond, -(CHR^9)-, -(CHR^9)-CH_2-, -CH=CH-, -O-, -O-(CHR^9)-, -S-(CHR^9)-, -(NR^9)-CH_2-, -(CHR^9)-CH=CH-, -(CHR^9)-CH_2-CH_2-, -(C=O)-, -O-CH_2-O-, -(NR^9)-, -(NR^9)-S(O_2)-, -CH=(CR^9)-, -(CO)-(CHR^9)-, -CH_2-(SO)-, -S-, -(SO)-, -(SO_2)-, -CH_2-(SO_2)-, -CH_2-O-CH_2-, wherein R^9 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxy, aryl.

14. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein X is a valence bond, -(CHR^9)-, -(CHR^9)-CH$_2$-, -CH=CH-, -O-(CHR^9)-, -S-(CHR^9)-, -(NR^9)-CH$_2$-, -(CHR^9)-CH=CH-, -(CHR^9)-CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -(C=O)-, -O-CH$_2$-O-, -(NR^9)-S(O$_2$)-, -CH=(CR^9)-, -(CO)-(CHR^9)-, -CH$_2$-(SO)-, -(SO)-, -(SO$_2$)-, -CH$_2$-(SO$_2$)-, -CH$_2$-O-CH$_2$-, wherein R^9 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C$_{1-4}$alkyl, C$_{1-4}$alkoxy.

15. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein X is a valence bond, -(CHR^9)-, -(CHR^9)-CH$_2$-, -CH=CH-, -O-(CHR^9)-, -(CHR^9)-CH=CH-, -(CHR^9)-CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -(C=O)-, -O-CH$_2$-O-, -CH=(CR^9)-, -(CO)-(CHR^9)-, -CH$_2$-(SO)-, -(SO)-, -(SO$_2$)-, -CH$_2$-(SO$_2$)-, -CH$_2$-O-CH$_2$-, wherein R^9 is hydrogen.

Sub A4

~~16. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Q is -O- or -S-.~~

~~17. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Q is -O-.~~

Sub A5

18. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents arylene, heteroarylene, or a divalent heterocyclic group optionally substituted with one or more C$_{1-6}$alkyl or aryl;

R^5 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, C$_{1-7}$alkoxy, C$_{1-7}$alkyl, C$_{4-7}$-alkenynyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkenyl, C$_{2-7}$-; or R^5 forms a bond together with R^6,

R^6 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, C$_{1-7}$alkoxy, C$_{1-7}$alkyl, C$_{4-7}$-alkenynyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkenyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkynyl; or R^6 forms a bond together with R^5,

R^7 represents hydrogen, C$_{1-7}$alkyl, C$_{4-7}$-alkenynyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkenyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, C$_{1-7}$alkoxyC$_{1-7}$alkyl, C$_{1-7}$alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, C$_{1-7}$alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, acyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl groups;

R^8 represents hydrogen, C$_{1-7}$alkyl, C$_{4-7}$-alkenynyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkenyl, C$_{2-7}$-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl;

Y represents oxygen, sulphur or NR^{10}, where R^{10} represents hydrogen, C$_{1-7}$alkyl, hydroxyC$_{1-7}$alkyl;

n is an integer ranging from 2 to 3 and m is an integer ranging from 0 to 1.

19. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents arylene or heteroarylene,

R^5 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen; or R^5 forms a bond together with R^6,

R^6 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen; or R^6 forms a bond together with R^5,

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl, C_{1-7}alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, acyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl groups;

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl,;

Y represents oxygen or sulphur;

n is an integer ranging from 2 to 3 and m is 1.

20. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents arylene or heteroarylene;

R^5 represents hydrogen;

R^6 represents hydrogen;

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, C_{1-7}alkoxyC_{1-7}alkyl;

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-7}alkyl, C_{2-7}-alkenyl, C_{2-7}-alkynyl,;

Y represents oxygen;

n is an integer ranging from 2 to 3 and m is 1.

21. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents arylene

R^5 represents hydrogen;

R^6 represents hydrogen;

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}-alkenyl, C_{2-4}-alkynyl,

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl,

Y represents oxygen;

n is an integer ranging from 2 to 3 and m is 1.

22. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar represents phenylene,

R^5 represents hydrogen;

R^6 represents hydrogen;

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl,

R^8 represents hydrogen

Y represents oxygen;

n is an integer ranging from 2 to 3 and m is 1.

Sub A6

23. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein A is 5 membered cyclic ring containing S.

24. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein B is 5 membered cyclic ring containing S.

A

~~25. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein X is -CH=(CR^9)-, wherein R^9 is H.~~

26. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein n is 2.

27. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Q is -O-.

28. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein m is 1.

29. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Ar is phenylene.
In another preferred embodiment, the present invention is concerned with compounds of formula I wherein R^5 is H.

30. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein R^6 is H.

31. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein R^7 is ethyl.

32. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Y is oxygen.

33. A compound according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein R^8 is H.

34. The compound according to claim 1 which is:
3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-propoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-2-propoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[1-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-methoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[1-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-methoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[1-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-methoxy]-phenyl}-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propoxy]-phenyl}-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propyl]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propyl]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid,

3-{4-[3-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-propyl]-phenyl}-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-(2-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,

2-methoxy-3-(4-(2-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,

2-propoxy-3-(4-(2-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(2-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(1-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(1-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(1-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(9*H*-1,8,10-triaza-anthracen-10-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(2-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(2-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(2-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(1-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(1-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(1-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(4,5,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(2-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(2-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(2-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(2-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(1-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(1-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(1-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,

2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(1-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(1,8,9-triaza-fluoren-9-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(dithieno[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(difurano[2,3-*b*;3',2'-*d*]pyrrol-7-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(2-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(1-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-propoxy-propionic acid,
3-(4-(3-(4*H*-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-2-benzyloxy-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(2-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(2-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(2-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(2-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(2-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-ethoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(1-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(1-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(1-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(1-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-methoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,

2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propoxy)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-ethoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-methoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-propoxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid,
2-benzyloxy-3-(4-(3-(4-oxa-1,7-dithia-8-aza-*s*-indacen-8-yl)-propyl)-phenyl)-propionic acid;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. The compound according to claim 1 which is:
3-{4-[2-(8,9-Dihydro-3,5-dithia-4-aza-cyclopenta[*f*]azulen-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

36. A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound according to any one of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

37. A composition according to claim 36 in unit dosage form, comprising from about 0.05 to about 100 mg, preferably from about 0.1 to about 50 mg of the compound according to any-one of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

38. A pharmaceutical composition useful in the treatment and/or prevention of conditions mediated by nuclear receptors, in particular the Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors (PPAR), the composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound according to any-one of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

39. A pharmaceutical composition useful in the treatment and/or prevention of diabetes and/or obesity, the composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

40. A pharmaceutical composition for diabetes and/or obesity, the composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

41. A pharmaceutical composition according to any one of the claims 36-40 for oral, nasal, transdermal, pulmonal, or parenteral administration.

42. A method for the treatment of ailments, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or of a composition according to any one of the preceding composition claims.

43. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of conditions mediated by nuclear receptors, in particular the Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors (PPAR), the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to any one of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or of a composition according to anyone of the preceding claims 36-41.

44. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of diabetes and/or obesity, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or of a composition according to anyone of the preceding claims 36-41.

45. The method according to claims 42-44, wherein the effective amount of the compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof is in the range of from about 0.05 to about 100 mg per day, preferably from about 0.1 to about 50 mg per day.

46. Use of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament.

47. Use of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament useful in the treatment and/or prevention of conditions mediated by nuclear receptors, in particular the Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors (PPAR).

48. Use of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament for treatment and/or prevention of diabetes and/or obesity.

49. Use of a compound according to anyone of the preceding compound claims or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament for treatment and/or prevention of diabetes and obesity.